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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 10/715,717             |          |
|   | Filing Date          | 11/17/2003             |          |
|   | First Named Inventor | JENNIFER TELFER        |          |
|   | Art Unit             | 2875                   |          |
|   | Examiner Name        | SAWHNEY, HARGOBIND S.  |          |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 14                   | Attorney Docket Number | 2572-PAT |

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of: TELFER**

**EXAMINER: SAWHNEY, H.**

**Serial Number 10/715,717**

**Group Art Unit: 2875**

**Filing Date: 11/17/2003**

**For: DECORATIVE STRING LIGHTS**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

**Initial Comments** begin on page **2** of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the complete listing of claims which begins on page **4** of this paper.

**FINAL REMARKS** begin on page **13** of this paper.

## COMMENTS

The Examiner has indicated that claim 4 was allowable as the prior art did not teach or suggest at least one substantially transparent or translucent socket assembly surrounded by a transparent or substantially translucent casing attached to the socket as recited in claim 4. The elements of claim 4 of the substantially transparent or translucent casing surrounding the socket engaged to a wire have been added to claim 1, and claim 4 canceled. With the allowable elements of claim 4 added to claim 1, claim 1 should now be allowable and any remaining claims dependant on claim 1 should now be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 9 was allowable as the prior art did not teach or suggest at least one substantially transparent or translucent socket assembly surrounded by a transparent or substantially translucent casing attached to the socket as recited in claim 9. The elements of claim 9 of the substantially transparent or translucent casing surrounding the socket engaged to a wire have been added to claim 8 and claim 9 canceled. As such, claim 8 should now be allowable and all remaining claims dependant on claim 8 should now be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 18 and 20 were allowable as having a locking plug engaged through the bottom of the socket assembly. Claims 18 and 20 also depend from newly amended claim 8 which has the added elements of former claim 9. As such, claims 18 and 20 should continue to be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 12 and 23 were allowable as having a current-flow interrupting means that was unique and not taught or suggested by the prior art. Claims 12 and 23 also respectively depend now from amended claims 1 and 8, which as noted should now be allowable. As such claims 22 and 23 should still be allowable.